

27. (Twice Amended) A pool controller system for controlling operation of a pool service system including a water heater, a water filter, and for providing a semi-automated water fill capability, comprising:

an electrically actuated valve connected to a water supply line, the valve responsive to electrical valve control signals to open and close, wherein the valve in an open state releases water from the water supply line into a water holding structure, and in a closed state prevents water from flowing from the water supply line into the water holding structure;

an electronic controller system responsive to manually entered user commands through a control panel to generate the valve control signals, the controller system for actuating the fill valve to the open state in response to a predetermined user fill command, and for automatically closing the valve upon elapsement of a predetermined fill time interval.

54. (Amended) In a spa or pool installation, including a water holding structure and a control system, a method for automatically releasing water into the water holding structure, comprising:

using an electronic pool control system, monitoring water parameters including water temperature and a water level sensor signal;

in response to a water level sensor signal indicative of a low water level in the water holding structure, generating electrical control signals to automatically open a water supply valve connected to a water supply line to release water into the water holding structure from a water supply line; and

generating electrical control signals to automatically close the water supply valve after a predetermined time interval has elapsed since opening the valve.

55. (Amended) In a spa or swimming pool installation, including a water holding structure, a method for releasing water into the water holding structure, comprising:

manually entering a water fill command through an electronic control panel connected to an electronic control system to actuate a water supply valve;

electrically opening the valve in response to the user command to release water into the water holding structure; and

63) automatically closing the valve in response to electrical signals from the electronic control signal after a predetermined time interval has elapsed after opening the valve.

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63. (Amended) A pool or spa service system for providing a semi-automated water fill capability to replenish water in the pool or spa, comprising:

an electrically actuated valve connected to a water supply line, the valve responsive to electrical valve control signals to open and close, wherein the valve in an open state releases water from the water supply line into the pool or spa, and in a closed state prevents water from flowing from the water supply line into the pool or spa;

an electronic controller system responsive to manually entered user commands through a control panel to generate the valve control signals, the controller system for actuating the fill valve to the open state in response to a predetermined user fill command, and for automatically closing the valve upon elapsement of a predetermined fill time interval.

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#### REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the careful review of the application as set out in the outstanding office action. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

A marked up version of the changes made to the application is attached hereto.

#### Claims Rejections -35 USC 103

Claims 20, 27, 54, 55 and 63 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Wendell (5,616,239) in view of Hart et al. (4,819,909) ("Hart"). This rejection is respectfully traversed on the grounds that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established, and the references do not teach or suggest the claimed invention.

Claim 20 is drawn to a method for releasing water into the water holding structure, comprising: